

CHARLESTOWN HERITAGE COMMISSION AGENDA

Minutes November 26, 2013 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by chair Joyce Higgins. Present were Joyce Higgins, Sue Coleman, Joanne Hipp, Sue Richardson, and Wesley Van Velsor. Brenda Ferland was absent.

The October secretary's report was approved.

The treasurer's report was approved. Invoice requests were signed. Sue will meet with Jess to change the CHC budget's two lines into one line for the coming year.

Joyce told the members that the bronze plaques were on their way from the manufacturer. She also reported that she will be selling *Histories* at the Craft Sale in the Town Hall on December 7. In addition, all the CHC information on the website has been updated, and information about buying the *Third History* has also been placed on the site.

Sue Weeks declined to become a member of the CHC. Jim Furman has been asked to become a member, and has accepted. He was unanimously voted in at this, his first meeting, and was warmly welcomed.

Wes reported that he has been in touch with the company supplying the stones for underneath the benches. He believes some progress has been made.

Preservation Alliance had a meeting in Charlestown on November 1. Judy Baraly spoke on the Town Hall improvements, and Joyce gave an update on the Main Street/Hassam house situation. The group was given a *Third History* for their library by Joyce. We received a nice thank-you note.

Joyce reported that Albert St. Pierre had asked her to represent the CHC with the Planning Board on the night he will request a revision of his plan for his new development in North Charlestown. He wants to preserve the red house, which is on the National Register. This met with approval.

The members of CHC voted unanimously to pursue the designation of a historic district commission and to ask Dave Edkins to place a correctly-worded article on the warrant.

Officers for 2014 were voted: Joyce Higgins, Chair; Sue Richardson, Treasurer; Sue Coleman, Secretary.

The upcoming Dollar General meeting with the Planning Board was discussed, and members asked to attend, if possible. A letter regarding the application was written to the PB by Joyce, and approved by the CHC.

Sue Richardson, Joanne Hipp, and Joyce Higgins met with middle school principal Paula

Southard-Stevens regarding the essay contest, and were pleased with her enthusiastic support for the contest. It was decided that the contest will be held for each of the three grades, the starting date to be in mid-January. There will be a special assembly in March with certificates and money prizes awarded to the winners in each grade. The new configuration of the contest was put in the form of a motion and passed unanimously.

A discussion of projects for the coming year was held. It was agreed to continue with the bench project, pending the Selectboard's approval of the bench/stones combination. It was also agreed to continue with the essay contest and to make ordering National Register plaques available to interested townspeople in the National Register districts. It was decided to place a commemorative plaque in South Charlestown this year, which will detail the history of that area. A plaque for Livingston Stone was also mentioned as a possibility, as well as a questionnaire to be mailed to residents on what direction they would like to see Charlestown take regarding historical buildings and issues. Support for Duncan Spilsbury's Eagle Scout project in Forest Hill cemetery will continue.

Joyce will present our budget request for \$3500 for the coming year to the Finance Committee.

Next meeting January 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Higgins, Chair